

~~-YALE COLLEGE-~~ DEMOCRATS

Testimony of Reed Dibich
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206 Elm Street, Suite E11
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In favor: H.B. No. 5126
An Act Concerning an Agreement among the States to
Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote

Dear Honorable Co-Chairman Musto and Jutila and members of the committee,

I write to you in favor of H.B. No. 5126. Every vote in a presidential election should count equally, no matter where one lives within the United States. Each citizen should have an equal say in electing our next president, as it concerns every single American citizen. Our current system, however, allows presidential candidates to focus their time and effort in certain battleground "swing states." As a result, presidential election cycles physically take place in only a handful of states while the rest of the nation watches.

Every state should receive equal attention in presidential elections, because each citizen's vote should count equally. However, this is not the case. In 2012 after receiving their party's official nominations, President Obama, Vice-President Biden, Governor Romney, and Representative Ryan collectively held 253 campaign visits in only 12 states,¹ which did not include Connecticut. I ask you, is this the right way to elect our national leader, our national representative, our President?

Passing H.B. 5126 is not only the just and right solution for a fair and equal democracy, it is a good solution for Connecticut. Candidates should visit us, spend money within our borders, and ask for our votes, too, because our votes are just as equal as any other citizen's.

I urge you to support HB 5126 for Connecticut's and our democracy's best interest.

Thank you for your time.

¹ Koza, J. R., Fadem, B., Grueskin, M., Mandell, M. S., Richie, R., & Zimmerman, J. F. (February 15, 2013). Table 1.19 Post-Convention Campaign Events in 2012 [table]. *Every Vote Equal*. Los Altos, CA: National Popular Vote Press.